SUBJECTS.

168. *Improvement of roads.*

*Mr. A Krishna Pillai* said that the roads from Kottayam to Kumaragom and to Aimanom should be improved.

*Dewan's reply.*—In regard to the road from Kottayam to Kumaragom, Government find that there is already canal communication between the two places. It cannot therefore be said that the road is an urgent necessity. Government cannot sanction it.

In regard to the village road from Kottayam to Aimanom, the Chief Engineer says that, even if a road is made, it will practically be under water during the rainy months of the year. It is therefore not advisable to expend money on this road.

169. *Zilla Court at Kottayam.*

*Mr. R. Veloo Pillai* urged the necessity for establishing a Zilla Court at Kottayam and said that one of the Judges in the Alleppey District Court might be transferred to that place.

*Dewan's reply.*—The suggestion of the member to transfer one of the two Judges of the Alleppey District Court to Kottayam will be referred to the High Court for opinion.

170. *Salt bankshall at Kottayam*

The member also asked for a salt bankshall at Kottayam.

*Dewan's reply.*—Recently, the policy of Government has been to develop business at all the salt depôts, and as much as possible, to leave the transport of salt to the interior and its retail sale, to private enterprise. It is in accordance with this policy that Government began to sell salt freely at the depôts. In consequence, many of the bankshalls became obsolete and were abolished. The Kottayam bankshall was one of them. From the figures before me, I find that this bankshall was abolished only after the sales in it went down to such an extent that there was no justification for continuing it. Ordinarily, traders may be trusted to bring and sell salt for local consumption. Government would leave a thing like that to private trade.

171. *Representation of Associations at the Assembly.*

*Mr. K. K. Kuruvila* spoke of the Agricultural Association at Changanacheri, of which he was the representative, and prayed for the permanent recognition of the Association for representation at the future sessions of the Popular Assembly.

*Mr. W. John* made a similar request for the Travancore and Cochin Roman CatholicAssociation, Kottayam.

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